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ABSTRACT

This booklet includes a number of Chinese songs (with English translations) designed for use with a tape recording produced by the Ethnic Resource Center for the Pacific, Educational Foundations, University of Hawaii. A pronunciation key and a listing of cassette recordings of Chinese instrumental music are provided. (EE)

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CHINESE SONGS WE CAN SING

and

CHINESE INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC

Translated by Yip-wang Law

A production of

The Ethnic Resource Center for the Pacific
College of Education, Educational Foundations
University of Hawaii
Honolulu, Hawaii 96822

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PREFACE

This booklet was developed for use with a cassette taperecording produced by the Ethnic Resource Center for the Pacific, Educational Foundations, University of Hawaii.

Side I, "Chinese Songs We Can Sing" was recorded from records COE-5077 and RC-2, Rose Record Company, obtainable through the Art-Tune Company, 16-18, Causeway Road, Hong Kong. Side II, "Chinese Instrumental Music" was recorded from Art-Tune Company records COE-5030 and COE-5080.

Musical scores were prepared by Yip-wang Law, based upon Chinese-style musical notations included with the original records. Romanization of the Chinese is based on the Wade-Giles System used in Mathews' Chinese-English Dictionary, Harvard University Press, Cambridge 38, Massachusetts. See the pronunciation key on the following page.

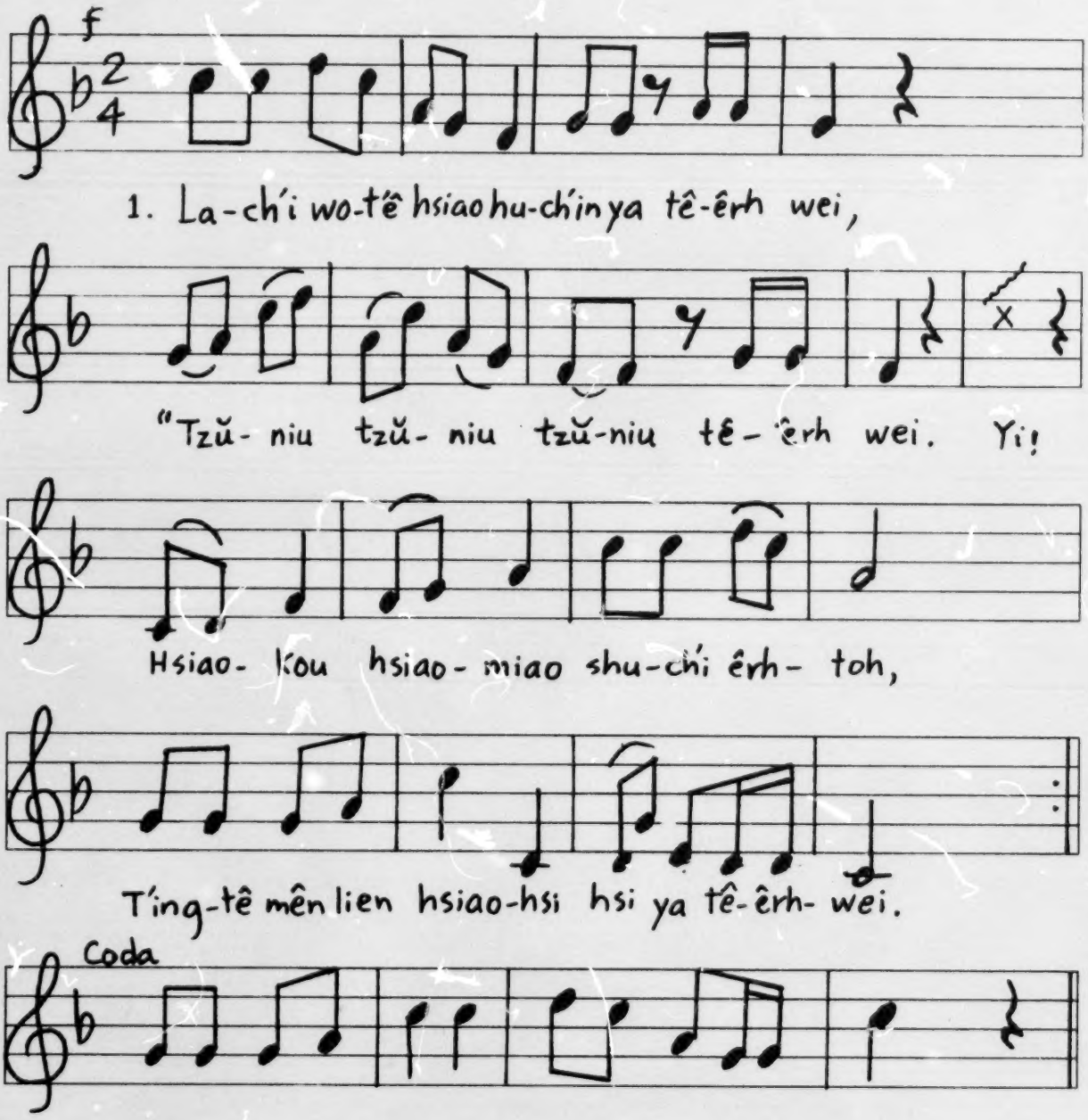
If you are interested in exploring Chinese music further, listen to records by Margaret Pang -- "Marn-Ling Sees the Chinese Lion Dance" and "Marn-Ling and the Chinese Musical Instruments," (International Telecom Incorporated). Her excellent long-playing records are available at House of Music and Harry's Music Store in Honolulu.

PRONUNCIATION KEY

a, ah	as in a<u>m</u>en
ai	as in <u>i</u>dle
an	as in c<u>a</u>n
ang	as in s<u>a</u>ng
ao	as in h<u>ow</u>
ch (before i and ü)	as in <u>j</u>eer
ch' (before i and ü)	as in <u>ch</u>eek
ch (before ih, a, ê, and u)	as in <u>j</u>udge, but not voiced
ch' (before ih, a, ê, and u)	as in <u>ch</u>urch, strongly aspirated
eh	as in y<u>e</u>s
ei	as in w<u>ay</u>
en	as in t<u>e</u>n
ê	as in h<u>er</u>
ên	as in f<u>un</u>
êng	as in s<u>ung</u>
êrh	as in h<u>er</u>
hs	as in <u>sh</u>e
i	as in <u>e</u>qual
ia	as <u>ya</u>h
iao	as in y<u>owl</u>
iang	as in y<u>a</u>nkee
ieh	as in y<u>es</u>
ien	as in th<u>e</u> <u>end</u>
in	as in k<u>ee</u>n
iu	as in <u>u</u>nited
j	as in a<u>z</u>ure
k	as in <u>g</u>o
k'	as in <u>c</u>ake, strongly aspirated
o	as in l<u>aw</u>
ou	as in n<u>o</u>te
p	as in <u>b</u>e, but not voiced
p'	as in <u>p</u>in, strongly aspirated
s, sz	as in <u>s</u>ister
sh	as in <u>sh</u>ore
t	as in <u>d</u>o, but not voiced
t'	as in <u>t</u>ea, strongly aspirated
ts, tz	as in see<u>ds</u>, but not voiced
ts', tz'	as in <u>ts</u>ar, strongly aspirated
u	as in t<u>oo</u>
ü	as in French menu or German grün (no English equivalent)
ua	as <u>wa</u>h
uai	as in <u>wi</u>fe
uo	as in <u>wa</u>ll
tzŭ	Roll tip of tongue slightly up and blow through closed teeth. (no English equivalent)

1. KUAI-LO-TÊ YIN-YÜEH-HUI
(A Delightful Concert)

快乐的音樂会

Words by Ma Hua
Music by Pan Chun-Shêng

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1. La-ch'i wo-tê hsiao hu-ch'in ya tê-êrh wei,
"Tzŭ- niu tzŭ- niu tzŭ-niu tê- êrh wei. Yi!
Hsiao- kou hsiao- miao shu-chí êrh- toh,
T'ing-tê mên lien hsiao-hsi hsi ya tê-êrh- wei.
Coda

1. 1. La-ch'i wo-tê hsiao hu-ch'in ya (tê-êrh wei),*
"Tzŭ-niu tzŭ-niu tzŭ-niu" (tê-êrh-wei).
Yee! Hsiao-kou hsiao-miao shu-ch'i êrh-toh,
T'ing-tê mên lien hsiao-hsi-hsi ya (tê-êrh wei).

2. Ch'ui-ch'i wo-tê hsiao la-pa ya (tê-êrh wei).
"Ti-ti da-da ti-ti-da-da ti-da" (tê-êrh-wei).
Ay! Hsiao-kuo hsiao-miao kên-cho ch'ang ya,
"Wang-wang-wang mi-mi-mi" ya(tê-êrh-wei).

3. Ch'iao-ch'i wo-tê hsiao t'ung-ku ya(tê-êrh-wei).
"Tung-tung tung-tung tung-tung tung-tung" (tê-êrh-wei).
Eh! Hsiao-kuo hsiao-miao yao-t'o pai-wei,
T'iao ya pêng ya t'iao ya pêng ya(tê-êrh-wei). (Repeat last line)

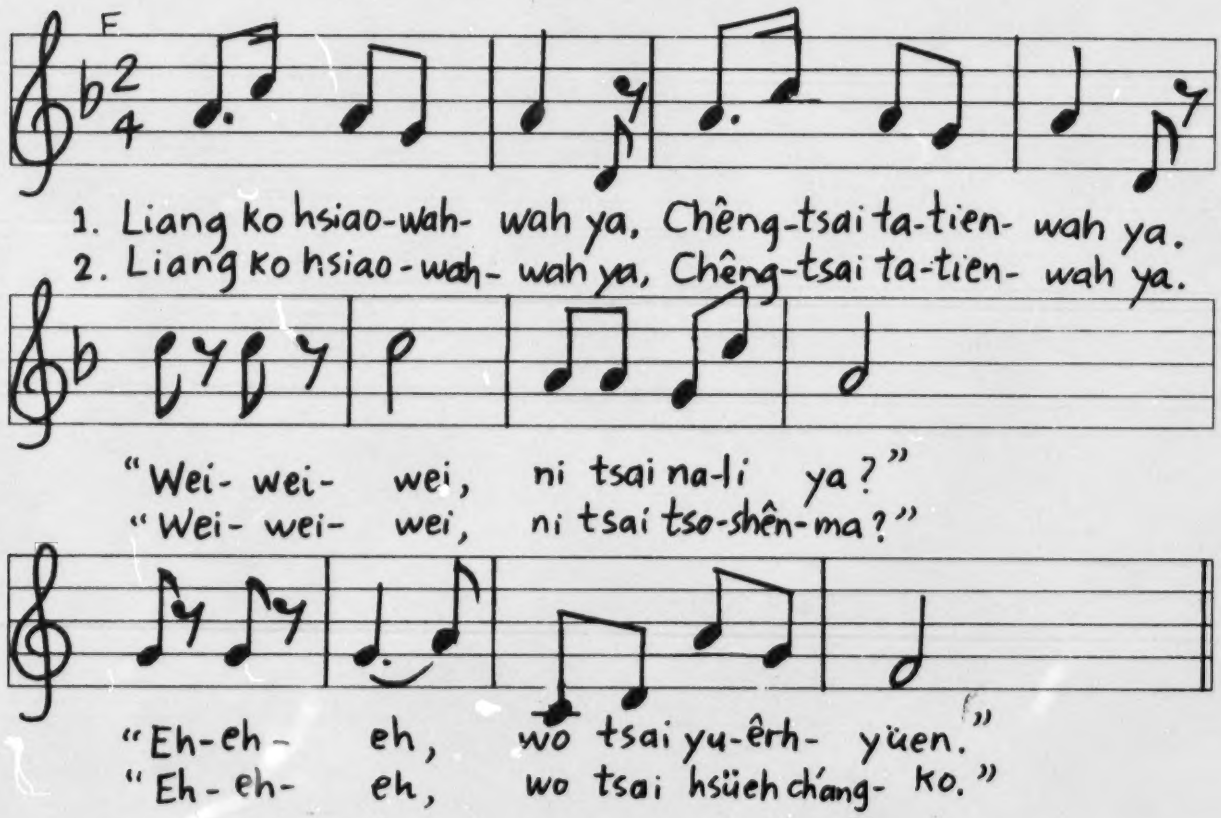
1. I play my little violin (tê-êrh-wei),
"Tzŭ-niu tzŭ-niu tzŭ-niu" (tê-êrh-wei).
Yee! My puppy and kitten raise their ears,
And rejoice at what they hear (tê-êrh-wei).

2. I blow my little trumpet (tê-êrh-wei),
"Titi-dada titi-dada ti-da" (tê-êrh-wei).
Ay! My puppy and kitten also sing with me,
"Wang-wang-wang, mi-mi-mi" (tê-êrh-wei).

3. I strike my little drum (tê-êrh-wei),
"Tung-tung tung-tung tung-tung tung-tung" (tê-êrh-wei).
Eh! My puppy and kitten shake their heads and tails,
Jumping about merrily (tê-êrh-wei). (Repeat last line)

* Note: On the recording, each of the verses is read aloud once before it is sung. However, the exclamatory phrases in parentheses are omitted in reading.

2. TA-TIEN-HUA
(Making a Telephone Call) Children's song by Wang Ling

打电话

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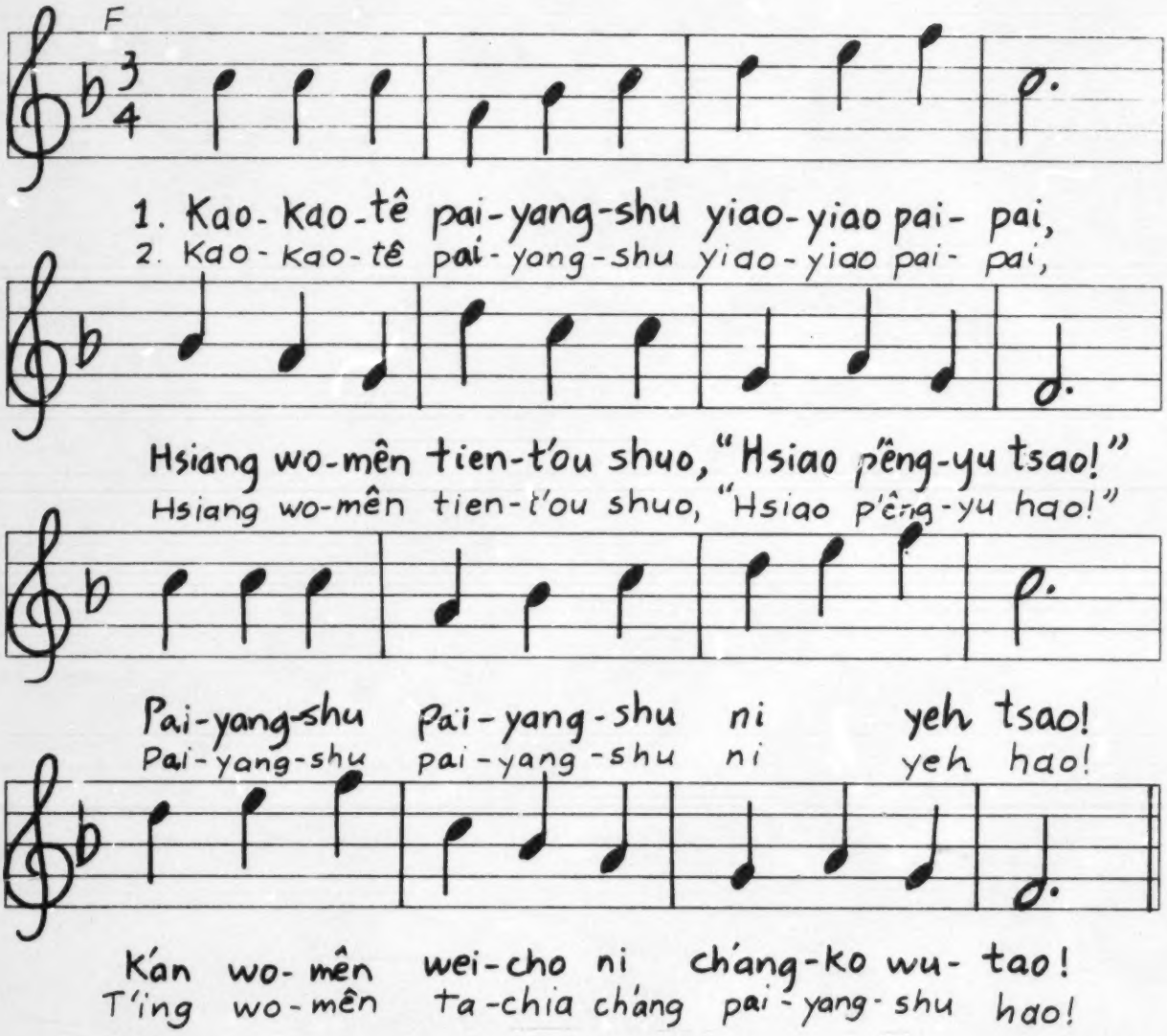
1. Liang ko hsiao-wah- wah ya, Chêng-tsai ta-tien- wah ya.
2. Liang ko hsiao-wah- wah ya, Chêng-tsai ta-tien- wah ya.
"Wei- wei- wei, ni tsai na-li ya?"
"Wei- wei- wei, ni tsai tso-shên-ma?"
"Eh-eh- eh, wo tsai yu-êrh- yüen."
"Eh- eh- eh, wo tsai hsüeh chang- ko."

1. Two little girls
Are making a telephone call.
"Hello, hello, hello, where are you?"
"Eh-eh-eh! I am at kindergarten."

2. Two little girls
Are making a telephone call.
"Hello, hello, hello, what are you doing?"
"Eh-eh-eh, I am learning to sing."

3. PAI-YANG-SHU
(The Aspen Tree)

Traditional

白楊樹

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1. Kao-kao-tê pai-yang-shu yiao-yiao pai- pai,
2. Kao-kao-tê pai-yang-shu yiao-yiao pai- pai,
Hsiang wo-mên tien-t'ou shuo, "Hsiao p'êng-yu tsao!"
Hsiang wo-mên tien-t'ou shuo, "Hsiao p'êng-yu hao!"
Pai-yang-shu Pai-yang-shu ni yeh tsao!
Pai-yang-shu pai-yang-shu ni yeh hao!
Kán wo-mên wei-cho ni ch'ang-ko wu-tao!
T'ing wo-mên ta-chia ch'ang pai-yang-shu hao!

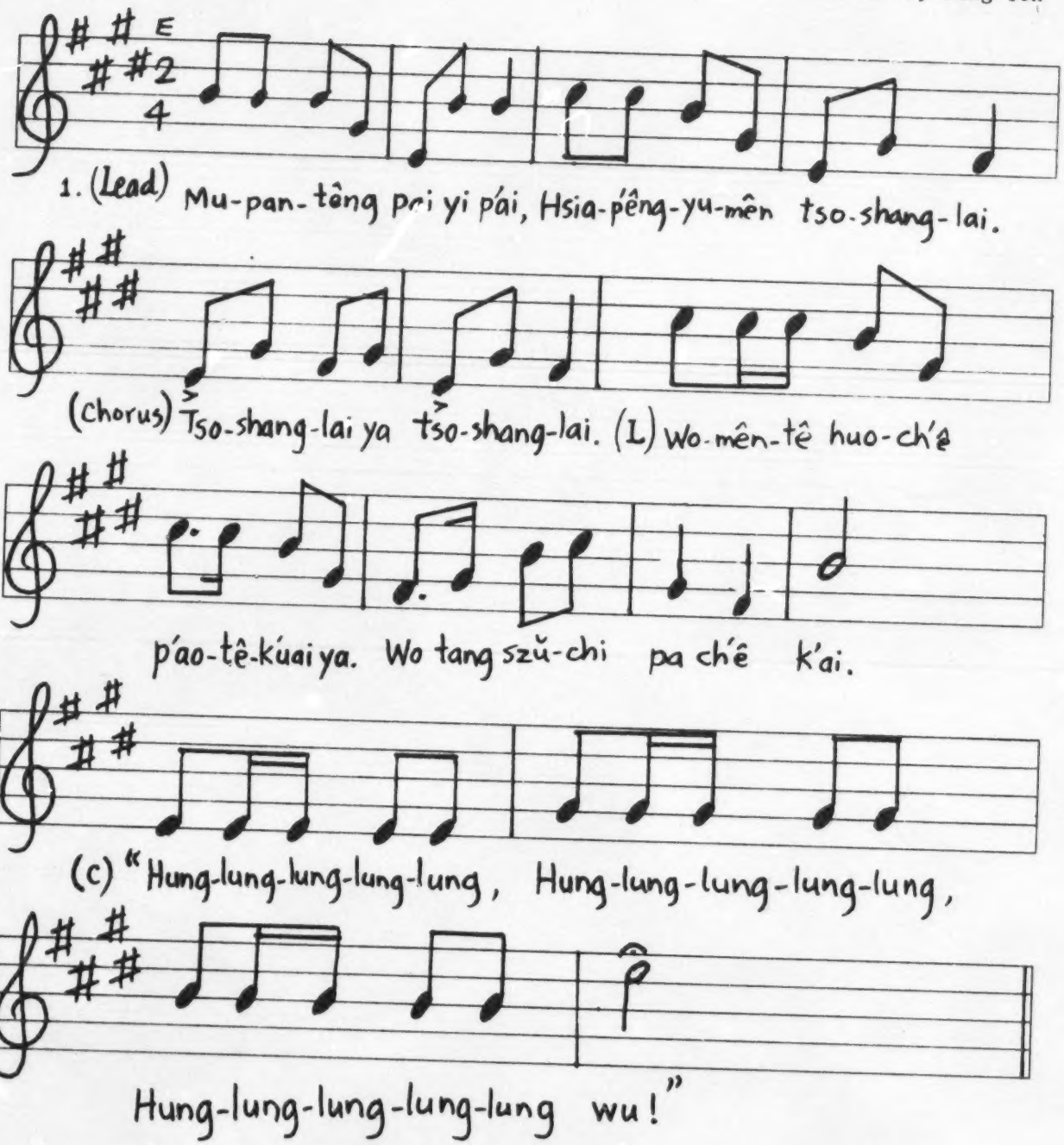
1. The aspen tree is tottering about,
And nodding to greet us "Good morning my little friends!"
Aspen tree, aspen tree, the same to you!
And watch us singing and dancing around you!

2. The aspen tree is tottering about,
And nodding to greet us "Wishing you fine my little friends!"
Aspen tree, aspen tree, the same to you!
And listen to us singing "A Fine Aspen Tree".

坐火車

4. TSO HUO-CH'Ê
(Riding the Train)

Words by K'o Jô
Music by Fang Yeh


1. (Lead) Mu-pan-têng pri yi pái, Hsia-pêng-yu-mên tso-shang-lai.
(chorus) Tso-shang-lai ya tso-shang-lai. (L) Wo-mên-tê huo-ch'ê
p'ao-tê-kuai ya. Wo tang szŭ-chi pa ch'ê k'ai.
(c) "Hung-lung-lung-lung-lung, Hung-lung-lung-lung-lung,
Hung-lung-lung-lung-lung wu!"

2. (L) Pao hsiao-wa-wa-tê ch'ien-pien tso,
Ch'ien hsiao-kou-tê wang hou nuo.
(C) Wang hou nuo ya wang hou nuo.
(L) P'i-ch'iu chi-mu tou pai hao ya,
Ta-chia tso-wên chiu k'ai ch'ê.
(C) "Hung-lung-lung-lung-lung, hung-lung-lung-lung-lung,
Hung-lung-lung-lung-lung wu!"

3. (L) Ts'uan ta-shan ya kuo ta-ho,
Huo-ch'ê p'ao pien ch'üan Chung-kuo.
(C) Ch'üan Chung-kuo ya ch'üan Chung-kuo.
(L) Ta-chan hsiao-chan wo dou t'ing ya.
Tao chan hsia ch'ê pieh hsia tso.
(C) "Hung-lung-lung-lung-lung, hung-lung-lung-lung-lung,
Hung-lung-lung-lung-lung wu!"

4. (L) Ai-ya-ya! Ai-ya-ya!
Ni-mên tao chan dou pu hsia.
(C) Tou pu hsia ya tou pu hsia.
(L) Shou p'iao la, hsia ch'ü pa!
Huan p'i lu-k'ê tsai k'ai ch'ê.
(C) "Hung-lung-lung-lung-lung, hung-lung-lung-lung-lung!
Hung-lung-lung-lung-lung wu!"

1. (Lead) I have lined up the little stools.
My little friends, come and take a seat.
(Chorus) Come and take a seat, come and take a seat.
(L) Our train goes fast.
I shall be the driver to run the train.
(C) "Hung-lung-lung-lung-lung, hung-lung-lung-lung-lung,
Hung-lung-lung-lung-lung-wu!" (Sound of engine and that of the whistle)

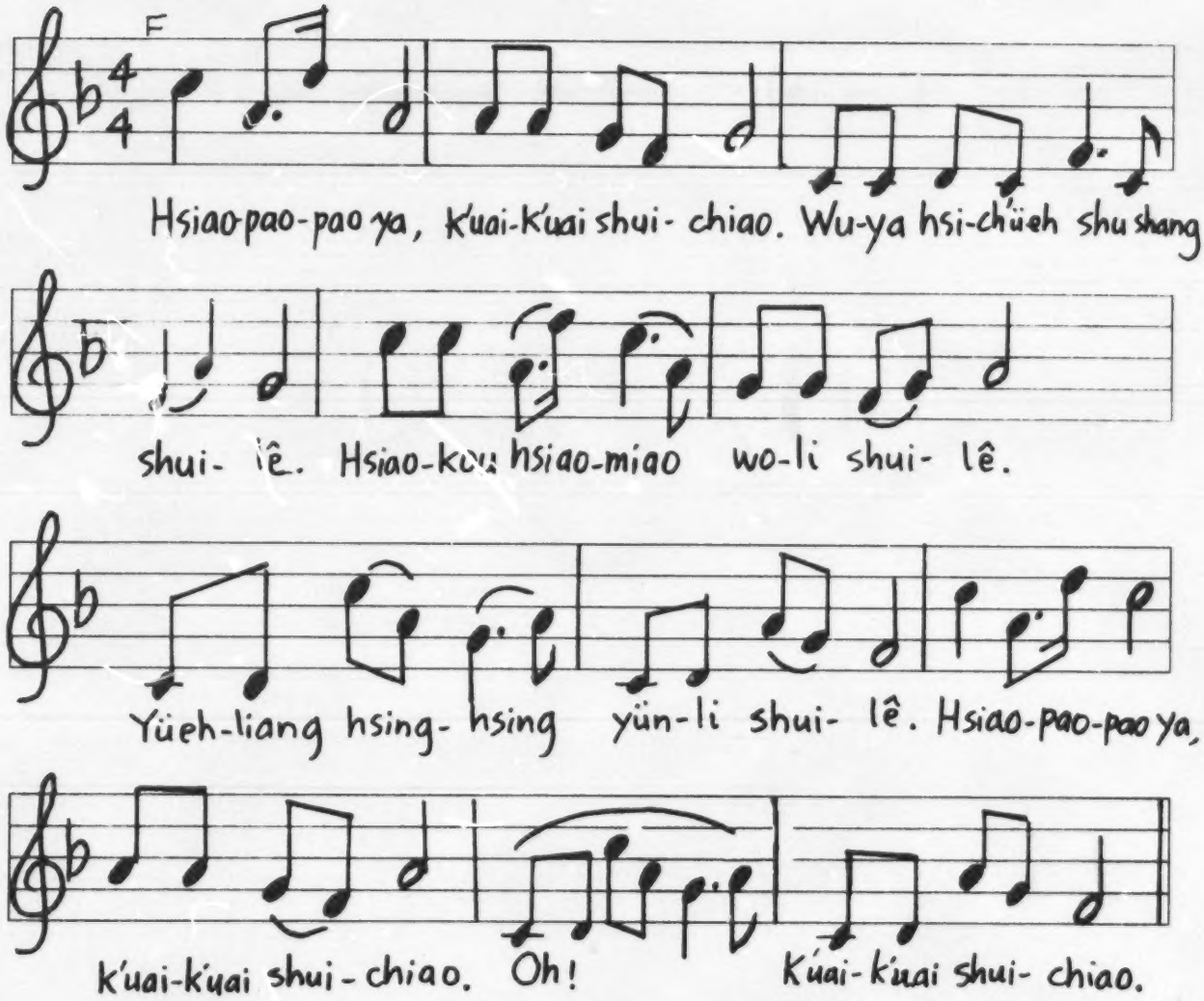
2. (L) Those carrying a baby should sit at the front
Those carrying a puppy please move to the back.
(C) Move to the back, move to the back.
(L) Place your rubber balls and wooden blocks properly.
I shall start the train after everyone has taken a seat.
(C) "Hung-lung-lung-lung-lung, etc."

3. (L) Going through big mountains and crossing great rivers,
Our train is visiting every part of China.
(C) Every part of China, every part of China.
(L) I shall stop at all big and small stations.
Get off at your station and don't make a mistake.
(C) "Hung-lung-lung-lung-lung, etc."

4. (L) Alas, alas!
At various stations none has alighted.
(C) None has alighted, none has alighted.
(L) I am collecting tickets now; everybody get off please.
The train will start again with new passengers.

5. YAO-LAN CHÜ
(Cradle Song)

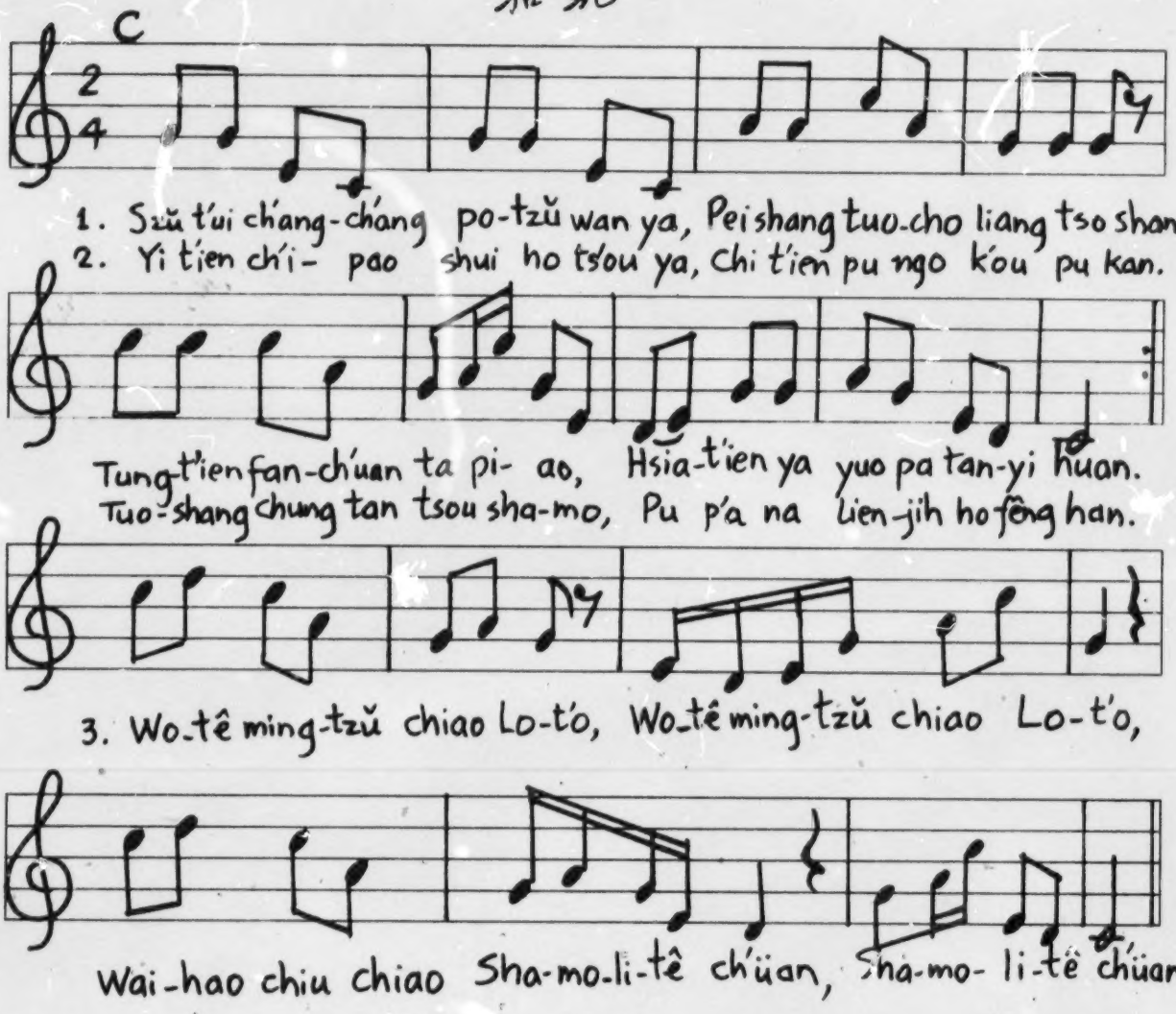
Children's Song by Wang Ling

搖籃曲

F
Hsiao-pao-pao ya, k'uai-k'uai shui- chiao. Wu-ya hsi-chüeh shu shang
shui- lê. Hsiao-kou hsiao-miao wo-li shui- lê.
Yüeh-liang hsing- hsing yün-li shui- lê. Hsiao-pao-pao ya,
k'uai-k'uai shui- chiao. Oh! K'uai-k'uai shui- chiao.

My little baby, fall asleep quickly.
The crows and magpies have fallen asleep upon the trees.
The kittens and puppies have fallen asleep in their kennels.
The moon and the stars have fallen asleep in the clouds.
My little baby, fall asleep quickly.
Oh, fall asleep quickly!

6. LO-T'O
(A Camel) Children's song by Pan Chun-chêng

駱駝


C
2
4
1. Szŭ t'ui ch'ang-ch'ang po-tzŭ wan ya, Pei shang tuo-cho liang tso shan.
2. Yi t'ien ch'i- pao shui ho ts'ou ya, Chi t'ien pu ngo k'ou pu kan.
Tung-t'ien fan-ch'üan ta pi- ao, Hsia-t'ien ya yuo pa tan-yi huan.
Tuo-shang chung tan tsou sha-mo, Pu p'a na lien-jih ho fêng han.
3. Wo-tê ming-tzŭ chiao Lo-t'o, Wo-tê ming-tzŭ chiao Lo-t'o,
Wai-hao chiu chiao Sha-mo-li-tê ch'üan, Sha-mo- li-tê ch'üan.

1. With four long legs and a curved neck,
   I am carrying two mountains on my back.
   In winter I wear my furry coat inside out,
   While in summer I wear a unlined dress.

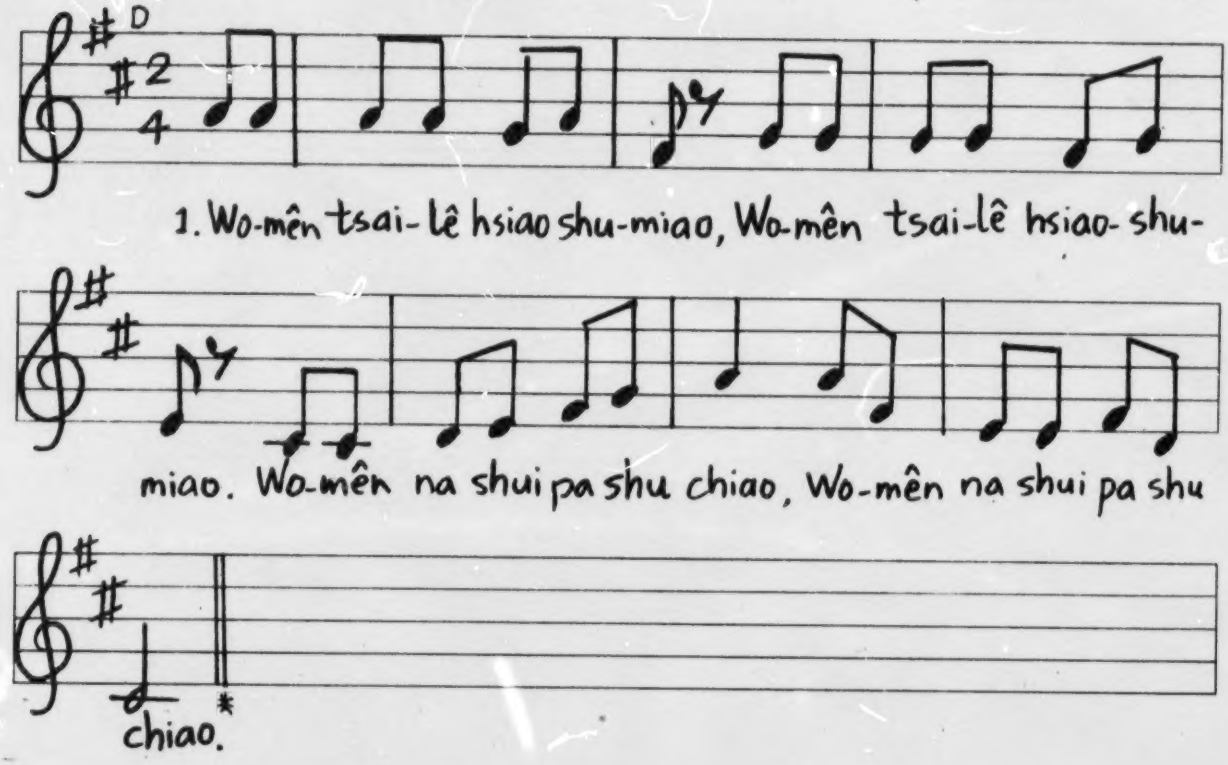
2. Having taken in enough water and grass in one day,
   I won't be hungry or thirsty for several days.
   Traveling in the desert with a heavy burden on my back,
   I am not afraid of the fierce sun and the cold wind.

3. My name is "Camel",
   My name is "Camel",
   And my nickname is "Vessel in the desert",
   "Vessel in the desert".

小 树

7.. HSIAO SHU
(A Little Tree)

Children's Song



2. Hsiao shu hsiao shu chang-ta-lê *
Hsiao shu hsiao shu chang-ta-lê
Ch'ün-t'ien chang-lê lu-yeh-tzu;
Hsia-t'ien shu-yin chang-tê hao.

3. Hsiao shu yeh-tzǔ lu-yu-yu,
Hsiao shu yeh-tzǔ lu-yu-yu.
Hsiao-niao ch'ang-ko tsai chih-tou,
Hsiao-niao ch'ang-ko tsai chih-tou.

1. We have planted a little tree,
We have planted a little tree,
In spring it puts forth green leaves,
In summer it casts a good shadow.

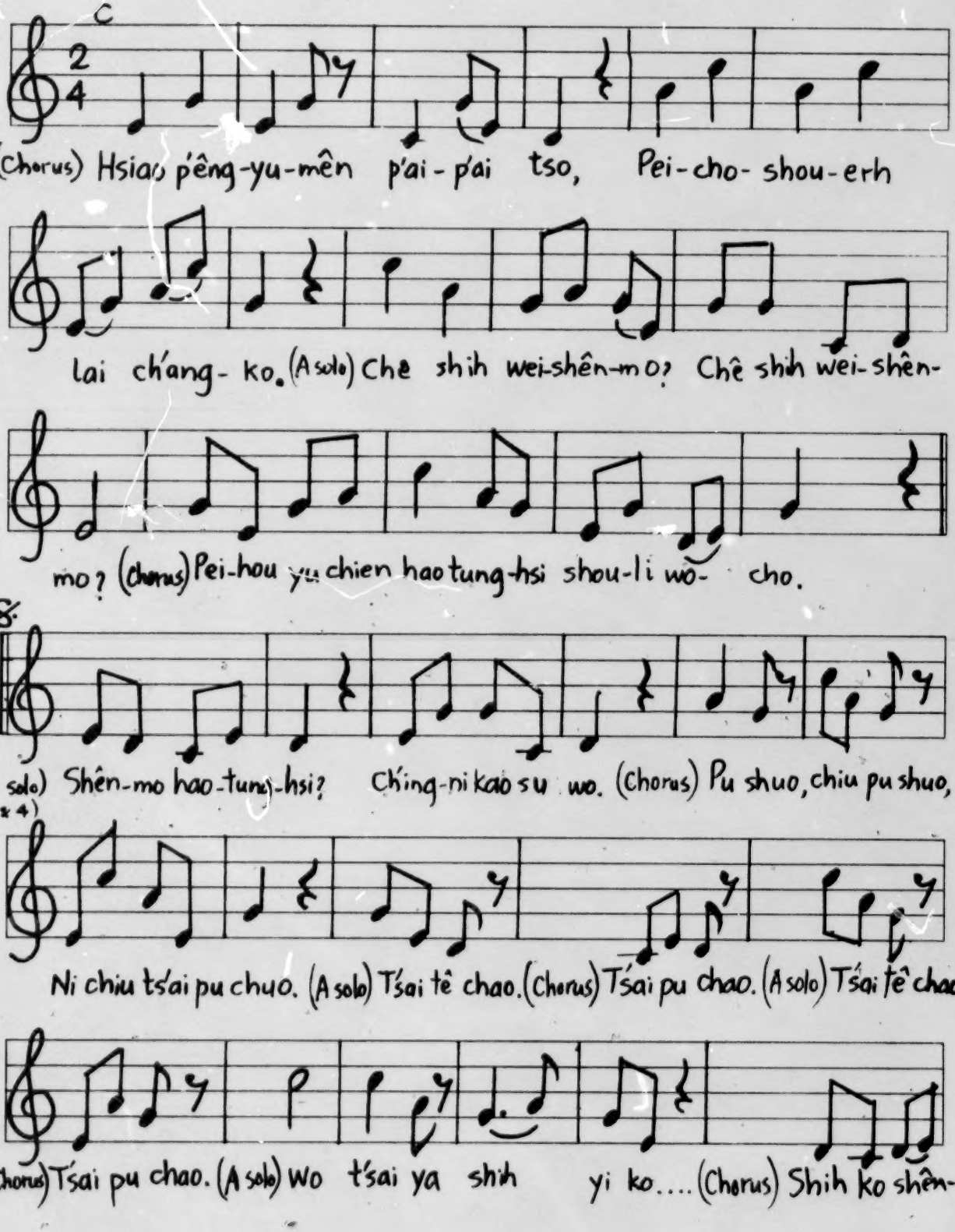
3. The leaves of the little tree are sparkling green,
The leaves of the little tree are sparkling green,
Little birds are singing upon its branches,
Little birds are singing upon its branches.

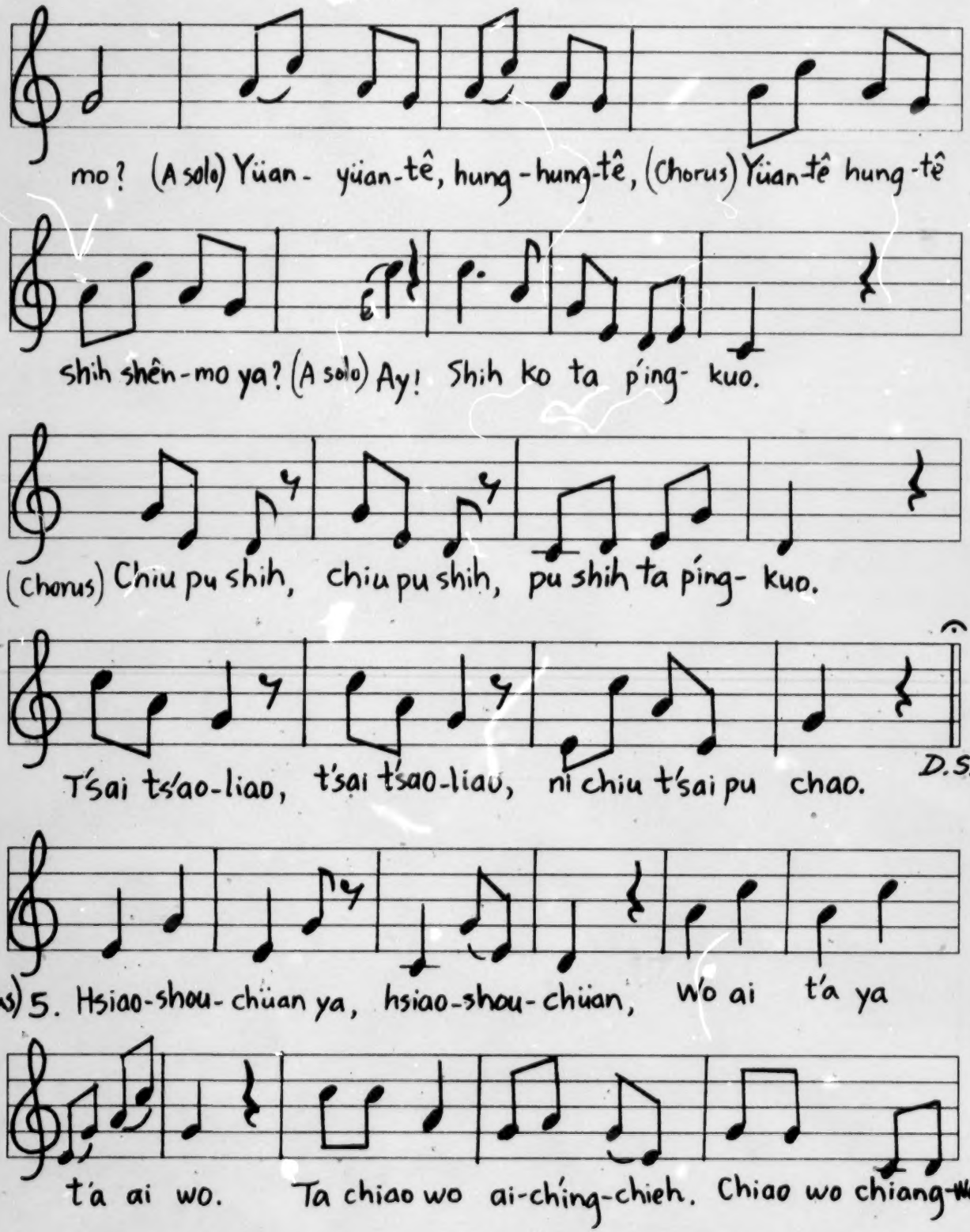
*On the recording each verse is read once before it is sung.

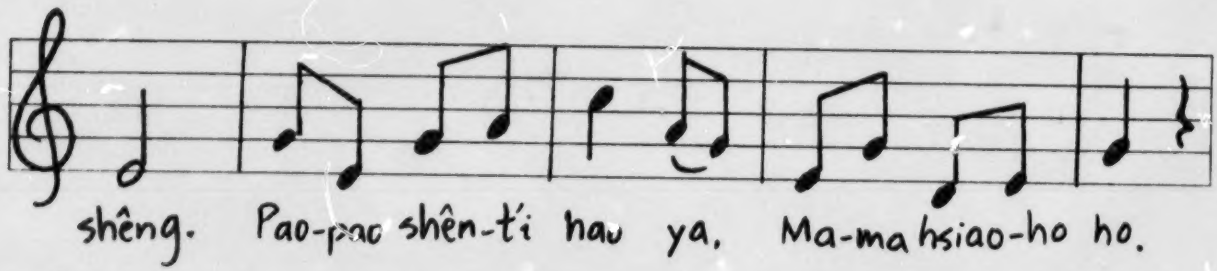
猜对了

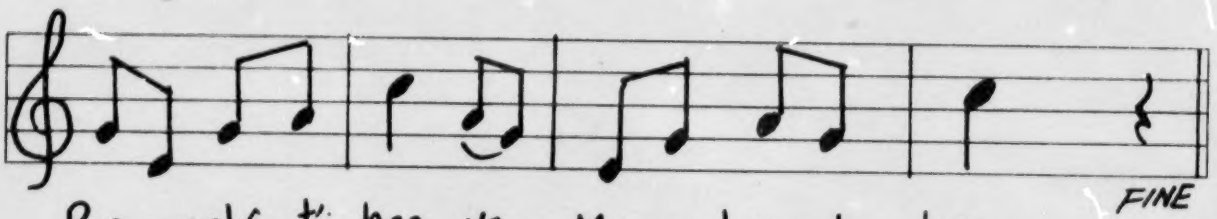
8. TS'AI TUI LIAO

(You Guess Right) Words and music by Pan Chun-Shêng


C
2
4
1. (Chorus) Hsiao p'êng-yu-mên p'ai-p'ai tso, Pei-cho-shou-erh
lai ch'ang-ko. (A solo) Chê shih wei-shên-mo? Chê shih wei-shên-
mo? (Chorus) Pei-hou yu chien hao tung-hsi shou-li wo- cho.
D.S.
2. (A solo) Shên-mo hao-tung-hsi? Ch'ing-ni kao su wo. (Chorus) Pu shuo, chiu pu shuo,
(Also 3 x 4)
Ni chiu ts'ai pu chuo. (A solo) T'sai tê chao. (Chorus) T'sai pu chao. (A solo) T'sai tê chao.
(Chorus) T'sai pu chao. (A solo) Wo t'sai ya shih yi ko.... (Chorus) Shih ko shên-


mo? (A solo) Yüan- yüan-tê, hung-hung-tê, (Chorus) Yüan-tê hung-tê
shih shên-mo ya? (A solo) Ay! Shih ko ta píng- kuo.
(Chorus) Chiu pu shih, chiu pu shih, pu shih ta píng- kuo.
T'sai ts'ao-liao, t'sai ts'ao-liao, ni chiu t'sai pu chao.
D.S.
(Chorus) 5. Hsiao-shou-chüan ya, hsiao-shou-chüan, wo ai t'a ya
t'a ai wo. Ta chiao wo ai-ch'íng-chieh. Chiao wo chiang-wei





3. (B solo) Shên-mo hao tung-hsi?
Ch'ing ni kao-su wo.
(Chorus) Pu shuo, chiu pu shuo,
Ni chiu ts'ai pu chuo.
(B solo) Ts'ai tê chao.
(Chorus) Ts'ai pu chao.
(B solo) Ts'ai tê chao.
(Chorus) Ts'ai pu chao.
(B solo) Wo ts'ai-ya shih yi ko.....
(Chorus) Shih ko shên-mo?
(B solo) Pai-pai-tê, juan-juan-tê,
(Chorus) Pai-tê juan-tê shih shên-mo ya?
(B solo) Ay! Shih ko ta po-po
(Chorus) Chiu pu shih, chiu pu shih,
Pu shih ta po-po.
Ts'ai ts'ou liao, ts'ai ts'ou liao,
Ni chiu ts'ai pu chao.

4. (C solo) Shên-mo hao tung-hsi?
k'uai-k'uai kao-su wo.
(Chorus) Pu shuo, chiu pu shuo,
Ni chiu ts'ai pu chao.
(C solo) Ts'ai tê chao.
(Chorus) Ts'ai pu chao.
(C solo) Ts'ai tê chao.
(Chorus) Ts'ai pu chao.
(C solo) Wo ts'ai-ya shih yi t'iao.....
(Chorus) Yi t'iao shên-mo?
(C solo) Fang-fang-tê, hua-hua-tê,
(Chorus) Fang-tê hua-tê shih shên-mo ya?
(C solo) Ay! Shih t'iao hsiao shou-chüan.
(Chorus) Tui-liao-ya, tui-liao-ya,
Shih t'iao hsiao shou-chüan.
(Nuo!) Tui-liao-ya, tui-liao-ya,
Shih t'iao hsiao shou-chüan.

1. (Chorus) Little friends are sitting in a row,
And are singing with their hands hiding at the back.
(A solo) Why they do that? Why they do that?
(Chorus) There is something nice behind us held in our hands.

2. (A solo) What is that nice thing? Please tell me.
(Chorus) Won't tell. We won't tell.
You won't guess it right.
(A solo) I can guess it.
(Chorus) You can't.
(A solo) I can guess it.
(Chorus) You can't.
(A solo) I guess it is a....
(Chorus) Is what?
(A solo) Something round and red.
(Chorus) What is that round and red thing?
(A solo) Ay! It is a big apple.
(Chorus) You are wrong. You are wrong. It's not a big apple. You guess wrong. You guess wrong. You can't guess right.

3. (B solo) What is that nice thing? Please tell me.
(Chorus) Won't tell. We won't tell. You won't guess it right.
(B solo) I can guess it.
(Chorus) You won't.
(B solo) I can guess it.
(Chorus) You won't.
(B solo) I guess it is a...
(Chorus) Is what?
(B solo) Something white and soft.
(Chorus) What is that white and soft thing?
(B solo) Ay! It is a big piece of cake.
(Chorus) You are wrong. You are wrong. It's not a big piece of cake. You guess wrong. You guess wrong. You can't guess right.

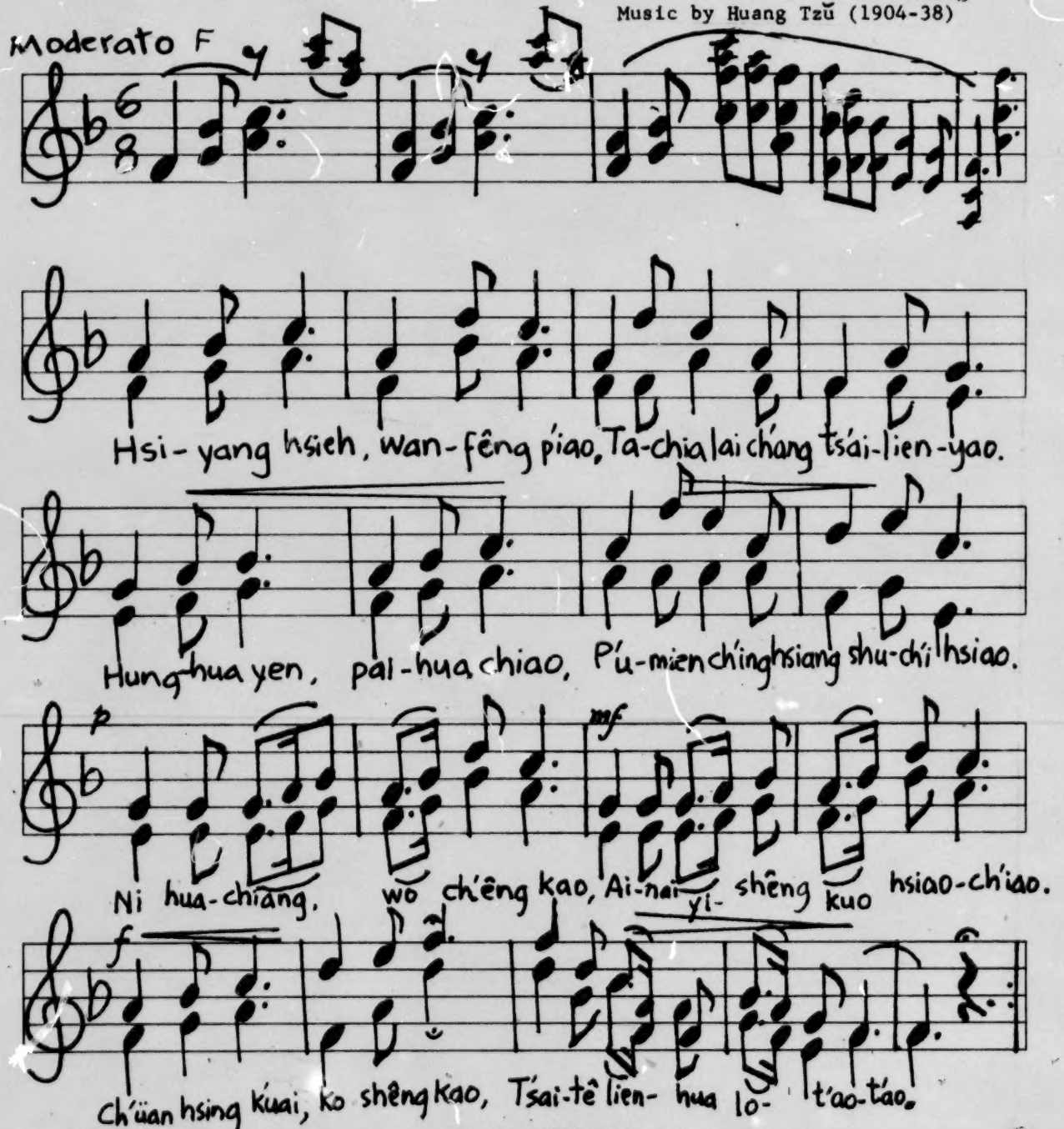
4. (C solo) What is that nice thing? Tell me quickly.
(Chorus) Won't tell. We won't tell. You won't guess it right.
(C solo) I can guess it.
(Chorus) You won't.
(C solo) I can guess it.
(Chorus) You won't.
(C solo) I guess it is a....
(Chorus) Is what?
(C solo) Something square and colorful.
(Chorus) What is that square and colorful thing?
(C solo) Ay! It's a little handkerchief.
(Chorus) You are right! You are right! It's a little handkerchief.
(Right!) You are right! You are right! It's a little handkerchief.

5. (Chorus) Little handkerchief, little handkerchief. I love it, and it loves me.
It tells me to love cleanliness, And it tells me to be sanitary.
A child of good health is a pleasure to mother.
A child of good health is a pleasure to mother.

採蓮謠

9. TS'AI LIEN YAO

(Picking Water-lily Seeds)

Words by Wei Han-chang
Music by Huang Tzŭ (1904-38)

Moderato F
Hsi-yang hsieh, wan-fêng p'iao, Ta-chia lai ch'ang ts'ai-lien-yao.
Hung-hua yen, pai-hua chiao, P'u-mien ch'ing hsiang shu-ch'i hsiao.
p
mf
Ni hua-ch'iang, wo ch'êng kao, Ai-nai yi- shêng kuo hsiao-ch'iao.
f
Ch'üan hsing k'uai, ko shêng kao, Ts'ai-tê lien- hua lo- t'ao-t'ao.

The setting sun is low. The evening breeze is blowing,
Let's sing a song of picking water-lily seeds.

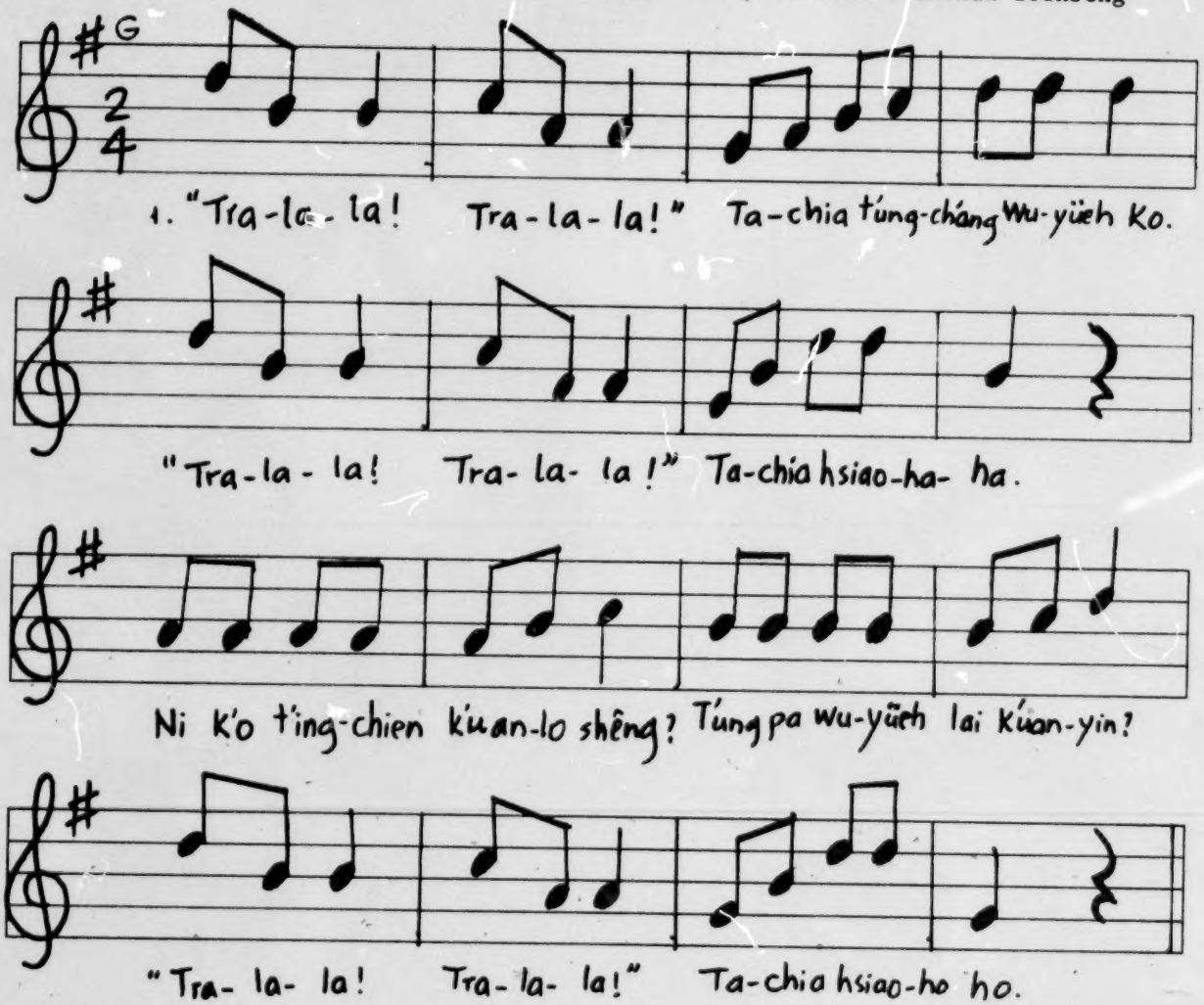
The white flowers are bright. The red flowers are pretty.
Their pure fragrance abates the summer heat.

You row the boat, I punt the pole,
With a creak we passed the bridge.

Our boat goes fast. Our song is loud,
We rejoice at the water-lily seeds we have plucked.

五月歌

10. WU-YÜEH KO

(A Song of May) Adapted from a German folksong

#G
2/4
1. "Tra-la-la! Tra-la-la!" Ta-chia tùng-chàng wu-yüeh ko.
"Tra-la-la! Tra-la-la!" Ta-chia hsiao-ha-ha.
Ni k'o t'ing-chien k'uan-lo shêng? Tùng pa wu-yüeh lai k'uan-yin?
"Tra-la-la! Tra-la-la!" Ta-chia hsiao-ho ho.

2. "Tra-la!Tra-la-la!" Wo-mên ch'ing-pu lai t'iao-wu.
"Tra-la-la! Tra-la-la!" Ta-chia hsing-chih-kao.

Kên-cho mei-miao hao yin-yüeh, Ch'ên-cho wu-hueh lai hsing-loh.
"Tra-la-la! Tra-la-la!" Ta-chia hsing-chih-kao.

1. "Tra-la-la! Tra-la-la!" Let's sing a song of May.
"Tra-la-la! Tra-la-la!" We all heartily laugh.

Do you hear our joyful voices, while we sing to welcome May?
"Tra-la-la! Tra-la-la!" We all laugh with joy.

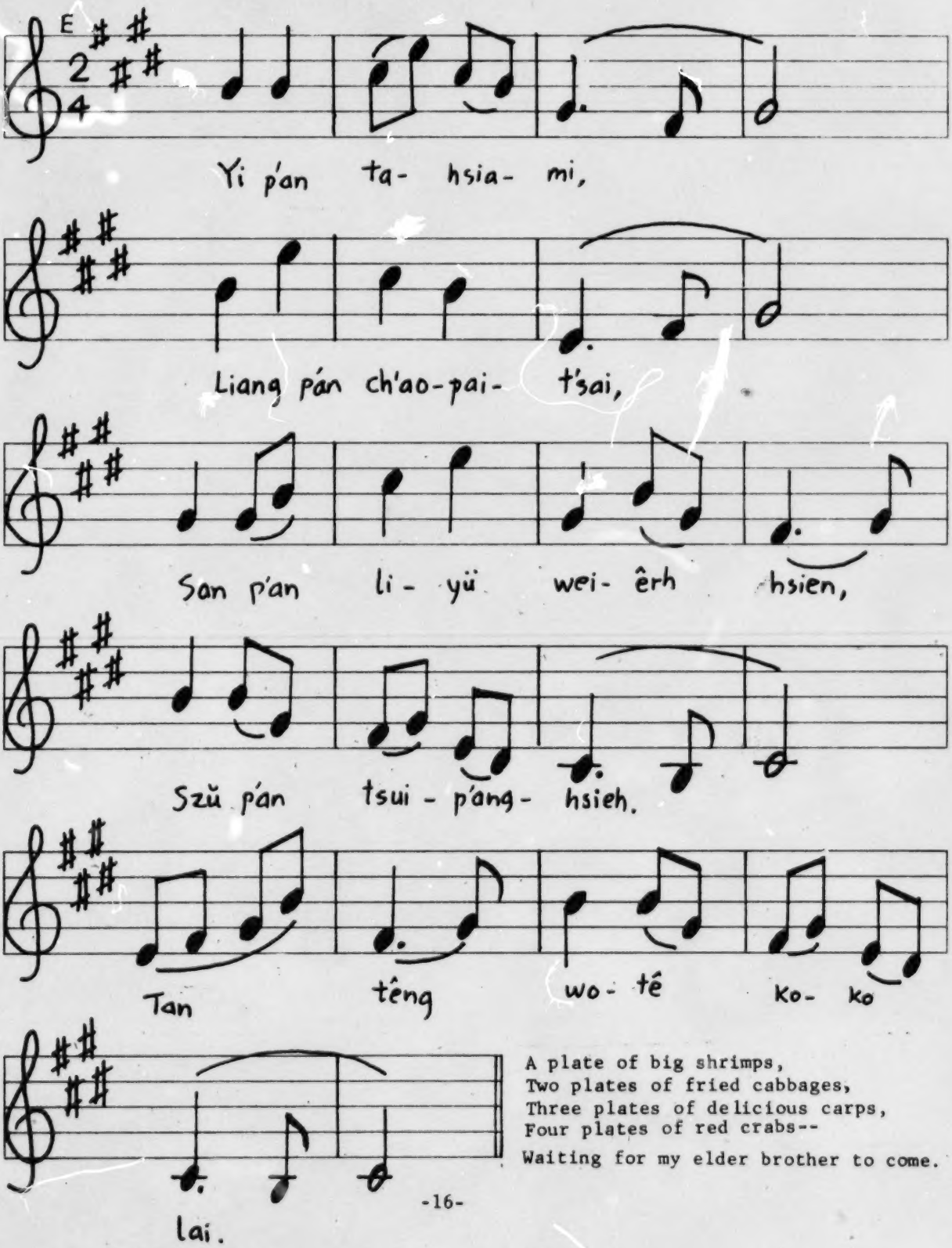
2. "Tra-la-la! Tra-la-la!" Let us all dance gently.
"Tra-la-la! Tra-la-la!" We are all cheerful.

Follow the wonderful music. Make merry while it's May.
"Tra-la-la! Tra-la-la!" We are all cheerful.

哥哥来

11. KO-KO LAI
(Waiting for Elder Brother)

A Chinese Folksong

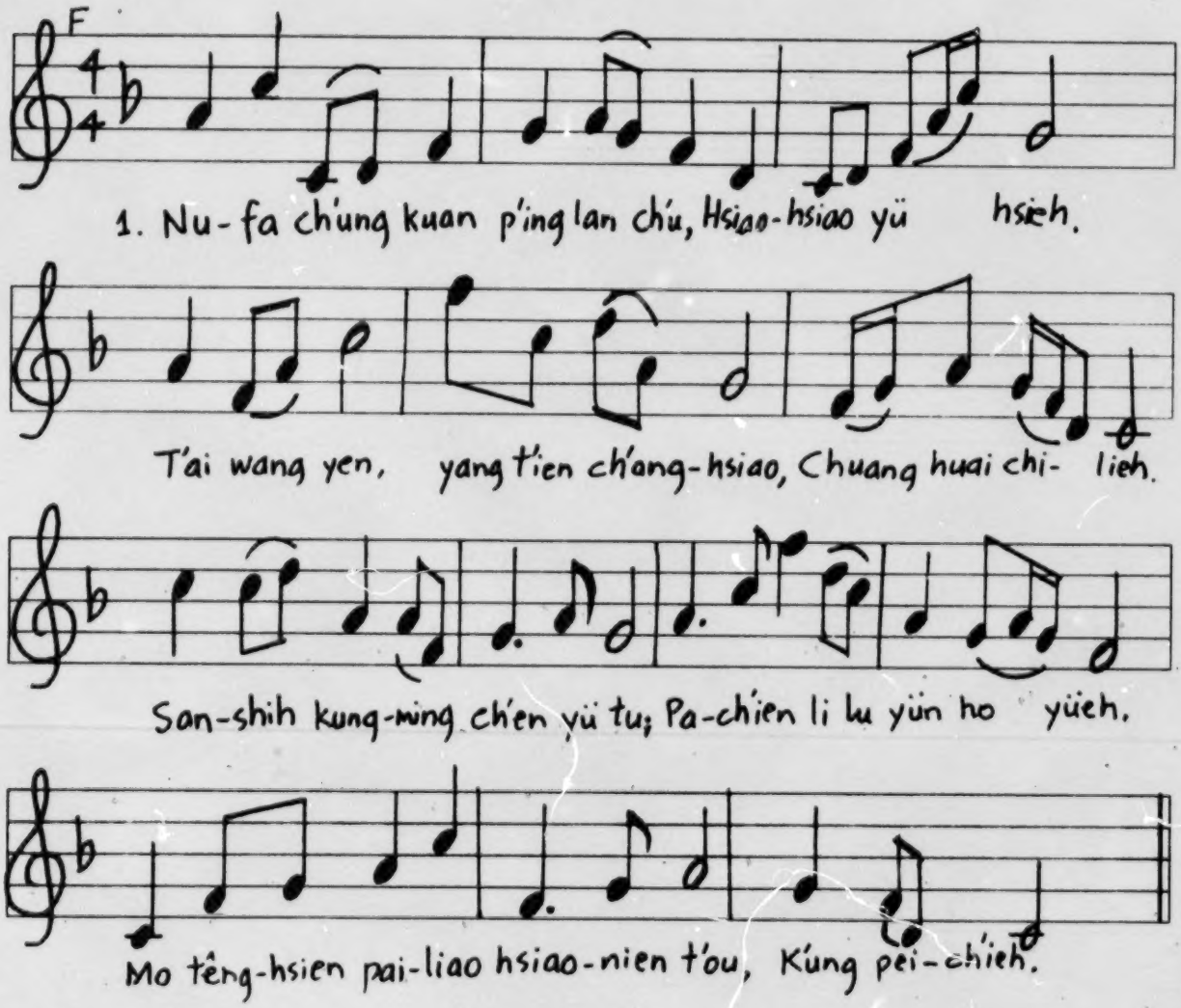


A plate of big shrimps,
Two plates of fried cabbages,
Three plates of delicious carps,
Four plates of red crabs--
Waiting for my elder brother to come.

滿江紅

12. MAN KIANG HUNG
(All River Red)

Traditional melody.
Words by Yüeh Fei (1102-41).


F
1. Nu-fa ch'ung kuan p'ing lan ch'u, Hsiao-hsiao yü hsieh.
T'ai wang yen, yang t'ien ch'ang-hsiao, Chuang huai chi- lieh.
San-shih kung-ming ch'en yü tu; Pa-ch'ien li lu yün ho yüeh.
Mo têng-hsien pai-liao hsiao-nien t'ou, Kung pei-ch'ieh.

2. Ching-k'ang ch'ih yu wei hsüeh,
Shên-tzŭ hên ho shih mieh?
Chia ch'ang chü, ta-p'o
Ho-lan Shan ch'eüh.

Ch'uang-chih chi ch'an Hu-lu ju,
Hsiao-t'an ho yin Hsiung-nu hsüeh,
Tai ts'ung-t'ou shou-shih chiu shan-ho,
Ch'iao t'ien-chüeh.

1. My hair bristles in my helmet,
I lean against the balustrade.
The pattering rain has stopped.
I raise my eyes high,
And whistle deeply to the sky.
With much excitement in my high-spirited mind.

Now at thirty, I treat honor and fame as dust.
For eight thousand miles I have traveled under the moon and clouds.
Don't idle away your youthful years
And lament in vain after your hair turns white.

2. Our disgraces from the enemies have not been avenged,
When will our grievance come to an end?
Oh, let's drive our fleet of chariots
To break through enemy strongholds.

Let our minds be determined to take Tartars's flesh in hunger,
And drink their blood in thirst.
Oh, let's get back every inch of our lost territories
And report to the Emperor with pride.

Historical note:

Advancing from the north, the Tartars repeatedly defeated Chinese forces of the Sung Dynasty, kidnapped two Sung emperors in 1127 and imposed conditions on the Sung government that were unacceptable and disgraceful to all patriotic Chinese. Unfortunately for China, the prime minister of the time, Ch'in Kuei, was prepared to accept a disgraced peace at the price of surrendering Chinese territories.

Yüeh Fei, one of the greatest Chinese generals, attempted to continue the fight but was recalled by the prime minister, imprisoned and sentenced to death at a time when the Sung government was prepared to abandon all the territory north of the Huai River. The conquests in Honan by Yüeh Fei were forgotten, and the Sung Dynasty fell from this moment into a state of intolerable weakness and decline.

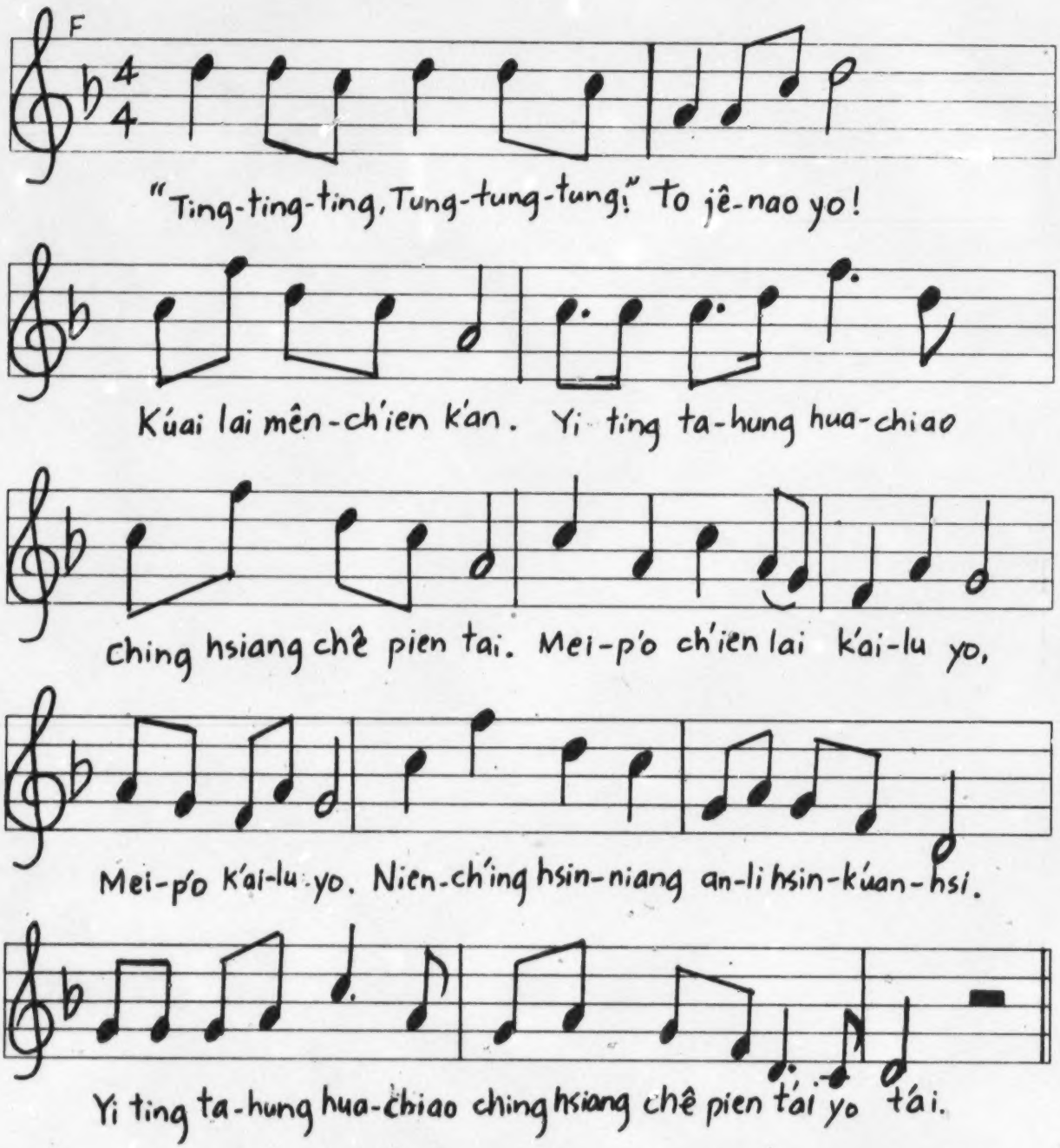
More famous than Yüeh Fei's loyalty was the inscription that, according to legend, was inscribed with hot irons on the boy's back by his mother, an inscription that may now be read on a million walls of China--tsin chung pao kuo, meaning: save the country with utmost loyalty. Yüeh Fei, at the age of 39, as well as his son Yüeh Yün, was put to death by the wicked prime minister in 1141. Yüeh Fei was later canonized in 1174 and has been honored by all Chinese people since then.

抬花轎

13. T'AI HUA-CHIAO

(Carrying a Bridal Sedan-Chair)

A Chinese folksong

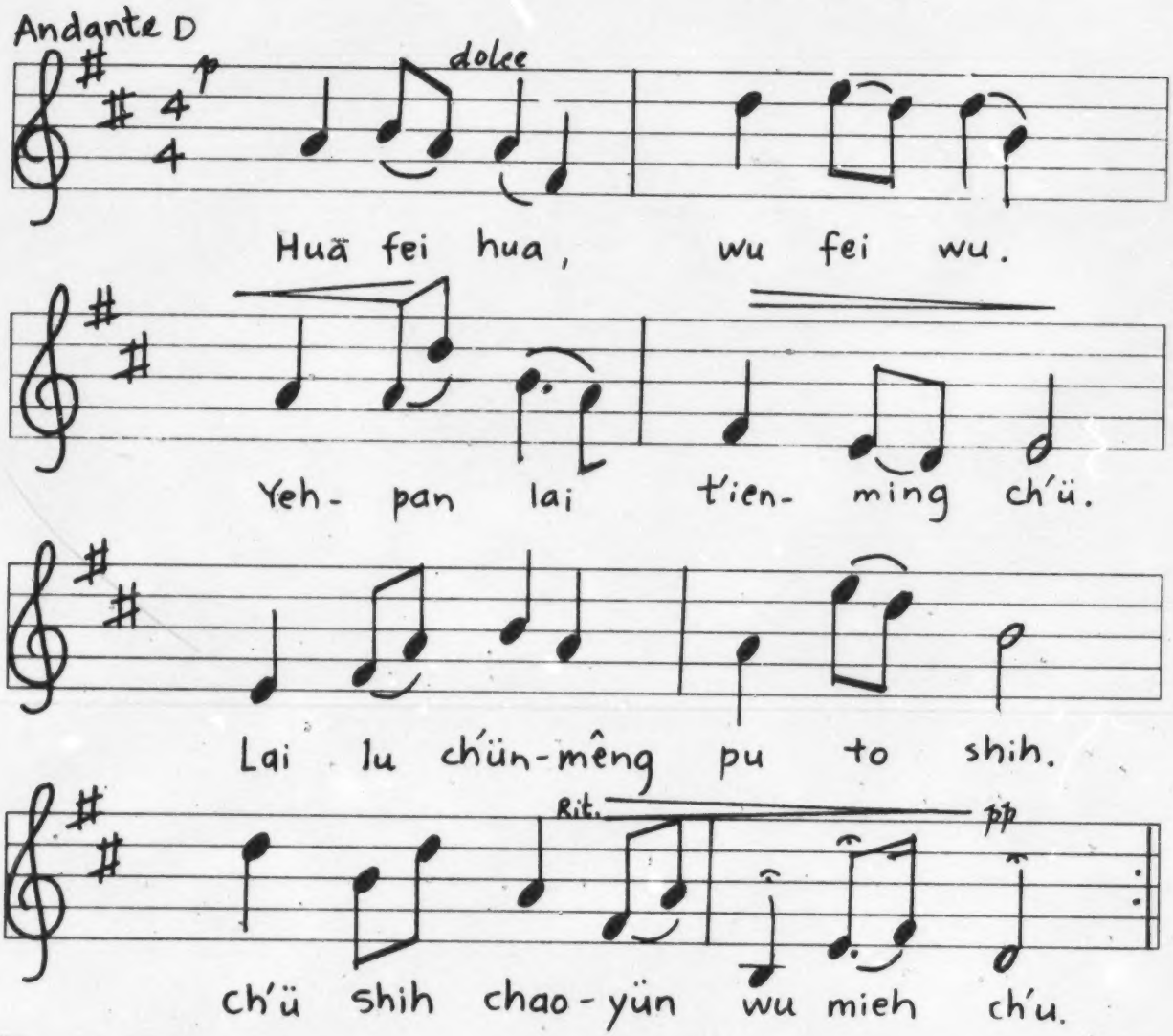

F
"Ting-ting-ting, Tung-tung-tung!" To jê-nao yo!
Kúai lai mên-ch'ien k'an. Yi ting ta-hung hua-chiao
ching hsiang chê pien tai. Mei-p'o ch'ien lai k'ai-lu yo,
Mei-p'o k'ai-lu yo. Nien-ch'ing hsin-niang an-li hsin-kúan-hsi.
Yi ting ta-hung hua-chiao ching hsiang chê pien t'ai yo tái.

"Ting-ting-ting, Tung-tung-tung!" How hustling!
Come to the door quick and take a look.
A gayful bridal sedan-chair is being carried towards us.

The match-maker is leading the way, leading the way.
The young bride is glad silently.
A gayful bridal sedan-chair is being carried towards us,
towards us.

花非花

14. HUA FEI HUA
(It Seems a Flower, But Not a Flower)

Words by Po Chü-yi (772-846)*
Music by Huang Tzŭ (1904-1938).

It seems a flower, but not a flower.
It seems a mist, but not a mist.
It comes at midnight, and goes away at day break.
It comes like a spring dream that does not last long.
It goes like a morning cloud, that can be found nowhere.

* A well-known poet of the T'ang dynasty.

Chinese Instrumental Music (Cassette Side II)

The following songs in the cassette tape in your kit were recorded from two records of the Art-Tune Company, Hong Kong--COE-5030 and COE-5080.

1. Han Kung Ch'iu Yüeh 漢宮秋月
(The Autumn Moon Over the Han Palace)

This is a well-known piece of typical Chinese ancient melody played by a Chinese orchestra. The Chinese orchestra consists of traditional instruments of string (e.g. the êrh hu 二胡, the pi-p'a 琵琶), and of wind pipes (e.g. the bamboo flute or ti-tzŭ 笛子 and the shêng 笙), and of percussions (e.g. the gong, the drum, and the yang-ch'in 揚琴). As the title of the melody suggests, this piece of instrumental music depicts the serenity of a moon-lit night at a Chinese palace.

2. Ching T'ou 驚濤
(The Surge)

3. Yü Loh Shêng P'ing 娛乐昇平
(Celebration of the Golden Age)

Both pieces are well-known traditional melodies of Kwang-tung province and had been made popular by the Cantonese opera singers who used to sing to the tunes of traditional melodies like these two. "The Surge" tries to capture the scene embedded in two well-known stanzas of Su Tung-po, a 9th century poet, "Thundering billows dash on the shore, Rolling up thousands of flakes of snow". "Celebration of the Golden Age" attempts to depict a bustling gala day.

4. Niao T'ou Lin 鳥投林
(Birds Returning to the Forest)

5. Chün Tao Jên Chien 春到人间
(Spring Comes to the World)

6. P'ing Hu Ch'iu Yüeh 平湖秋月
(Autumn Moon over the Smooth Lake)

7. Yü Yu Ch'ün Shui 魚游春水
(Fish Swimming in Spring Water)

Erh hu soloist Mr. Liu T'ien-yi plays four pieces of traditional melodies from Kwangtung province. The erh hu is comparable to the violin but is more difficult to play than the violin.

In "Birds Returning to the Forest" we hear many bird songs. "Spring Comes to the World" is a picture of the Chinese farms in Spring time. "Autumn Moon over the Smooth Lake" is a famous scene in West Lake, one of the most scenic places of China. "Fish Swimming in Spring Water" depicts the carefree movements of fish in fresh spring water.